



COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS

Falkland Islands

1947

The Series of Colonial Annual Reports was suspended during the war years and is continued in 1947



LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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THE SERIES OF COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after suspension in 1940) is being continued with those relating to 1947.

It is anticipated that the Colonies and Protectorates for which 1947 Reports are being published will, with some additions, be the same as for the previous year (see list on cover page 3).

ANNUAL REPORT ON

The

FALKLAND ISLANDS

and Dependencies

FOR THE YEAR

1947

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LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1948

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The cover illustration shows
the Sea Front, Stanley,
looking West

Introductory Note

Since conditions, physical, climatic and industrial, are so different in the Falklands from those in the Dependencies it has been considered desirable to divide this report into two sections.

In many cases the figures for 1946 are presented as they afford the latest complete data. The year is shown where they have been used.

(A) *THE COLONY*

Review of 1947

As will be seen, 1947 may properly be described as the first year of post-war planning.

During that year a first step was taken towards the fuller representation in government of the people of the Colony by the passage of legislation to create for Stanley a Town Council with an elected majority. The Town Council is composed of six elected members and three appointed by the Governor including the Senior Medical Officer and the Executive Engineer. During the year the reform of the Legislative Council was also under consideration with the Secretary of State.

Action was taken to improve communications by the ordering, for re-sale at landed cost, of radio-telephones for houses not connected to land-lines, by the purchase of a 75-foot motor fishing vessel, the prime duties of which will be in connection with the medical services, and finally by the initiation of a scheme for the use of an ambulance aeroplane. The motor vessel sailed from England in December.

Plans for improved education have been published ; it is intended to build a much needed infants' school in Stanley, to introduce higher education and to offer equal educational opportunities to all.

In the Medical Department plans for the reconstruction of the Hospital have been formulated and approved. They will include, besides the improvements and modernisations obviously required, special provision for bedridden incurables and senile invalids who cannot be cared for at home. A trained District Nurse is to be appointed for Stanley and if necessary two others for the Camp.¹

¹ In the Falklands the word " Camp " is used as a general term for the country districts in contrast to Stanley. " Camp " is simply a contraction of the Spanish word " campo ", i.e., country. It was no doubt introduced by the cattle hunters, who, although of various nationalities, spoke Spanish.

The erection of a new and modern wireless station was begun—a project which was much assisted by the generosity of the Admiralty and the War Department in lending equipment.

The site of the old Town Hall, which was burned to the ground in 1944, has been cleared and the foundation of the new Town Hall has been laid; this is a big step towards restoring an important centre of social life and towards providing offices for the new Town Council.

Broadcasting to the Camp is to be improved by the installation of up-to-date apparatus, and a teleprinter has been obtained for giving the daily news to Stanley.

The British American Kelp Company's project for the establishment of a kelp industry had most unfortunately to be abandoned on account of high capital costs and the difficulty of obtaining machinery.

The introduction of trout to the fresh waters of the Colony, which are deficient in fish of any size, was continued by the liberation of fry reared from ova in the Government hatchery. Experiment during the war resulted in the production of trout up to $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. weight in a local stream. On New Year's Eve a further consignment of ova arrived from the United Kingdom. It is expected that this activity will produce an agreeable change in diet as well as interesting sport. A scheme for investigation of the inshore fisheries was prepared and transmitted to the Colonial Office for consideration.

PART I

Chapter 1 : Population

THE population is white and has been derived to a large extent from the United Kingdom. On 31st December, 1947, it numbered 2,273—1,236 males and 1,037 females. The density of population is about one person to every two square miles. Approximately half the inhabitants live in Stanley, the capital, and the remainder are divided more or less equally between the outlying districts of the East and West Falklands. The number of births registered in 1947 was 33 and of deaths 31, or respectively 15.33 and 13.57 per 1,000. Twenty-two marriages were celebrated during the year. No deaths occurred among infants under two years of age. One hundred and ninety-nine persons arrived in the Colony and 164 left during 1947.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS

The principal industry, sheep-farming, employs about 480 men. Labour in Stanley is almost solely at the disposal of the Government (which employed an average of 90 men on hourly wages) and of the Falkland Islands Company, Limited.

There was no unemployment in 1947.

WAGES

Rates of wages and hours of work were unchanged throughout 1947. In Stanley unskilled labourers were paid at the rate of 1s. 2d. per hour plus 3d. per hour cost-of-living bonus, and skilled labourers and artisans received 1s. 5d. and 1s. 7d. respectively, plus 3d. cost-of-living bonus. The working week is 45 hours.

On the sheep farms in the country districts wages are calculated on a monthly basis as follows: general labourers, termed "navvies", £8 12s. 6d. and shepherds £9 12s. 6d., including cost-of-living bonus in each case, and in addition free quarters, fuel, meat, milk and garden.

There was no special labour legislation in 1947, but as some years have elapsed since the publication of the last Annual Report the Ordinances enacted since 1939 are given below:

- No. 3 of 1939. Workmen's Compensation (Amendment).
- No. 1 of 1942. Labour Advisory Board (to authorise enquiries into conditions, etc.).
- No. 2 of 1942. Minimum Wage.
- No. 4 of 1942. Trade Union and Trade Disputes.

COST OF LIVING

Mutton is the staple meat, beef is little used except in winter, and the supply of fresh fish, fowls and pork is uncertain and irregular and consequently diet is somewhat restricted in variety.

There is one small hotel in Stanley and a few private houses offer a reasonable degree of comfort and convenience for residents and occasional visitors at charges ranging from £2 2s. to £3 3s. per week.

Unfurnished houses for workmen cost from £2 to £3 10s. per month.

In the majority of cases the Government provides houses for its officials. Houses, if not so provided, are very difficult to obtain and the average rent of an unfurnished house is £50 a year.

The prices of fifteen important articles of food are :

Bread	1s. 2d. per 4-lb. loaf
Butter (imported)	2s. 4d. per lb.
Coffee	3s. per lb.
Eggs	2s. 6d. per dozen
Fish	3d.-6d. per lb.
Fowls	2s. 6d. each.
Flour	3d. per lb.
Meat : Beef	3d.-5d. per lb.
Mutton	3d. per lb.
Pork	1s. 2d.-2s. per lb.
Milk	8d. per quart (subsidised)
Potatoes	2d.-6½d. per lb.
Sugar	6d. per lb.
Tea	3s. per lb.
Vegetables	2d.-3d. per lb.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

Until 1880 the Colony received a regular grant-in-aid from the Imperial Treasury and a special grant for a mail service until 1885, since when it has been self-supporting.

The revenue of the Colony for 1946 from all sources was £198,879 against £110,677 in 1945, and from ordinary sources £198,601 against £110,051. Ordinary expenditure was £219,854 and extraordinary £2,310. 1946 therefore ended with a debit of £23,285.

Figures of revenue and expenditure for the five years up to 1946 are :

	REVENUE		EXPENDITURE	
	Ordinary	Total	Ordinary	Total
	£	£	£	£
1942	89,780	92,128	66,485	99,409
1943	91,099	91,454	68,591	96,855
1944	172,232	172,643	135,989	158,770
1945	110,051	110,677	88,063	102,470
1946	198,601	198,879	219,854	222,164

The remarkable increase in revenue from 1944 is attributable to sales of new issues of Dependencies' postage stamps wrongly credited to the Colony and subsequently refunded. Compensatory expenditure is accounted for by payments to the Revenue Suspense Account, now liquidated, and the Dependencies Postal Account.

There is no public debt. The excess of assets over liabilities shown in Capital Account (Land Sales Fund) on 31st December, 1946, was £275,675. On the same date, the Reserve Fund amounted to £9,052.

The principal heads of taxation are customs import and export duties, and income tax.

(i) Duties were payable at the following rates :

Import

- Wines : 5s. per gallon in bulk, Empire 3s. per gallon.
5s. 6d. per dozen bottles, Empire 3s 3d. per dozen.
- Spirits : 26s. per gallon.
- Malt liquors : 1s. per gallon in cask, 1s. per dozen pints.
- Tobacco : 5s. per lb.
- Matches : 10s. per gross boxes, British made 5s. per gross.

Export

- Wool : 1s. per 25 lb.
- Whale and seal oil : 1s. 6d. per barrel (6 barrels equal 1 ton).
- Whale meat meal, etc. : 3d. per 100 lb.

(ii) Income Tax. Maximum rate 2s. 6d. in the pound.

The revenue from these duties were : imports . . .	£11,009
exports . . .	9,983
income tax, including company tax . . .	11,913
	<hr/>
	£32,905
	<hr/>

There were no excise or stamp duties.

Chapter 4 : Banking and Currency

There are no banks other than the Government Savings Bank which pays interest on deposits at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum.

The sum on deposit on 31st December, 1946, was £449,431 and the number of depositors was 1,591 ; the average for each depositor being £282. This is equivalent to £198 per head of the population.

Remittances by any person or firm can be made through the Commissioner of Currency and the Crown Agents for the Colonies at a charge of 1 per cent. The Falkland Islands Company and the Estate Louis Williams who act as bankers and financial agents for the farms undertake a similar service.

The legal tender is British coinage and local £5, £1 and 10s. notes. The estimated value of coin in circulation on 31st December, 1946, was £6,000 and of notes £47,000.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

With the exception of meat and a limited quantity of garden produce, practically the whole of the Colony's requirements in foodstuffs is imported.

The value of imports and exports for 1947 as well as 1939, 1945 and 1946 are as follows :

IMPORTS

	1939 £	1945 £	1946 £	1947 £
Food, Drink and Tobacco	32,472	48,648	55,418	80,298
Raw Materials . . .	10,023	25,788	50,284	60,282
Mainly manufactured . .	40,656	88,625	110,419	98,060
Miscellaneous . . .	716	1,426	5,438	6,656
Bullion and Specie . .	—	—	—	—
Total Imports	<u>£83,867</u>	<u>£164,487</u>	<u>£221,559</u>	<u>£245,296</u>

EXPORTS

	1939 £	1945 £	1946 £	1947 £
Wool	176,197	189,800	231,700	238,550
Hides and Skins . . .	8,276	9,016	14,175	12,821
Tallow	524	—	13,550	5,775
Livestock	12,111	—	—	—
Seal Oil	1,800	—	—	900
Other Articles . . .	1,090	4,762	34,488	7,050
Total Exports	<u>£199,998</u>	<u>£203,578</u>	<u>£293,913</u>	<u>£265,096</u>
Re-exports	<u>£1,090</u>	<u>£4,747</u>	<u>£34,488</u>	<u>£7,020</u>

IMPORTS (PERCENTAGE)

	1939	1945	1946	1947
British Empire . . .	69.45	51.53	53.54	51.35
Foreign Countries . .	30.55	48.47	46.46	48.65

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS

	1946	Qty.	1947	Qty.	SOURCES OF SUPPLY (Values in £.)		
Provisions . . .	£ 39,432		£ 55,244		United Kingdom	18,493	Uruguay 15,508
Hardware . . .	38,384		36,057		United Kingdom	29,670	
Drapery . . .	17,661		20,728		United Kingdom	12,865	Uruguay 6,786
Coal, Coke and Oil							
Fuel . . .	22,490		24,522		Uruguay . . .	24,522	
Timber . . .	19,084		30,043		Sweden . . .	13,976	Chile . 9,326
Paint . . .	1,583		2,920		United Kingdom	2,766	
Chemicals . . .	11,426		12,050		United Kingdom	11,587	
Beer . . .	3,536	11,008 gal.	5,060	13,308 gal.	United Kingdom	2,343	Uruguay 2,539
Spirits . . .	5,449	4,636 gal.	6,907	4,239 gal.	United Kingdom	6,060	
Tobacco . . .	4,757	10,708 lb.	12,013	25,225 lb.	United Kingdom	11,870	
Wines . . .	2,244	1,951 gal.	1,074	1,126 gal.	United Kingdom	372	Argentina 261

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

	1946	1947	Destinations
Wool . . .	£ 231,700	£ 238,550	United Kingdom
Tallow . . .	13,550	5,775	Netherlands
Hides and Skins . . .	14,175	12,821	United Kingdom
Seal Oil . . .	—	900	United Kingdom
			107 brl.
			5,117,075 lb.
			1,717 cwt.
			284,174 kg.

PRINCIPAL SUPPLYING COUNTRIES

	1939 £	1945 £	1946 £	1947 £
United Kingdom . . .	57,829	61,247	108,602	122,324
Other parts of British Empire	408	23,365	10,022	3,637
Argentina	3,915	22,607	19,973	22,300
Brazil	1,150	3,605	8,688	5,152
Chile	3,183	317	11,295	15,392
Sweden	—	—	886	14,831
Uruguay	15,395	45,953	55,656	56,711
U.S.A.	1,107	6,691	4,737	4,020

Chapter 6 : Production

The undeveloped resources are the very extensive kelp (*Macrocystis*) beds, a large herd of sea lions, and the whales which are found in the surrounding waters. Apart from these and the pasture no other resources are known.

The pasture is the basis of the only industry, sheep farming, which is primarily concerned with the production for export of wool, skins and tallow, although the latter is a by-product. Meat is used solely for local consumption, but a project for erecting a freezer to utilise surplus sheep for export is under consideration.

With the exception of some 40,000 acres remaining to the Crown, all land is now freehold and the whole of it is divided into sheep farms or ranches varying in area from 3,600 to 400,000 acres and carrying from 1,700 to 80,000 sheep, approximately one sheep for every two to five acres. Forage crops are produced to a very limited extent and with this exception there is no agriculture.

The average weight of wool exported annually during the past five years was something over four million pounds. In 1947 it amounted to 5,117,075 lb., or more by 176,300 lb. than the preceding year. The latest available value is that for the 1945-46 season when 4,507,498 lb. were sold for £242,291, giving an average of 12s. 9d. per lb., but prices have advanced markedly since then.

Hides and skins were valued at £12,821 as against £14,175 in the previous year, thus showing a decrease of £1,354.

The whole of the produce in 1947 was exported to the United Kingdom with the exception of 1,717 cwt. of tallow which went to the Netherlands.

During the year 141 pedigree rams were imported from New Zealand, 5 from the United Kingdom and 4 from Argentina.

Chapter 7 : Social Services

EDUCATION

Education is compulsory (in Stanley only) between the ages of 5 and 14 and voluntary continuation classes enable study to be continued to the age of 16.

In Stanley there are two schools, an infant school and a combined junior and senior school, both maintained by Government. Boarding allowances are granted to assist children from country districts to attend school in Stanley.

Country children who are unable to come to Stanley are taught either in small one-teacher schools (some full-time, some part-time) or by travelling teachers. In 1947 the Government maintained two full-time schools and two travelling teachers on the East Falklands and two part-time schools and five travelling teachers on the West Falklands. The Falkland Islands Company also maintained two part-time schools and three travelling teachers on its farms on the East Falklands. The work of the teachers in the country districts is supplemented by educational broadcasts from Stanley.

The Government grants two scholarships each year for three-year courses of secondary education at the British School in Montevideo. There are no facilities in the Colony for higher or vocational education.

HEALTH

Although the climate is rather deficient in sunlight it is healthy, especially in the Camp districts, but rather damp in and around Stanley and therefore not very suitable for persons with any rheumatic tendencies. During the summer the constant high winds are trying. The weather in winter is comparable to that of the colder parts of the east coast of England.

The quality of the food in the Colony is good, although it lacks variety, especially with regard to vegetables, but with care in cultivation it is possible to guarantee a nine months' supply. Fruit is imported from Montevideo, but red and white currants, gooseberries and raspberries grow well locally, although their cultivation is as yet very limited. Steps are being taken by both the Medical and the Agricultural Departments to improve the supply of fresh milk to Stanley.

The staff of the Medical Department includes a Senior Medical Officer, three Medical Officers, one of whom is stationed in West Falkland and another at Darwin, a Dental Surgeon, a Nurse Matron and a qualified Nursing Sister, and in addition four junior nurses locally recruited and trained. During the year a Medical Officer made periodical tours of the north part of East Falkland. These journeys were additional to visits paid by the Senior Medical Officer, who made an extended tour of the north part of East Falkland, and the Medical Officer at Darwin. West Falkland was also visited by the Senior Medical Officer.

King Edward VII Memorial Hospital in Stanley has 17 beds, an operating theatre, quarters for nurses, and an out-patients department. Separate buildings provide a surgery and workshop for the dentist. Plans for extension and renovation have been approved and it is hoped to begin the work in 1948.

During 1947, 186 persons were admitted to the hospital as against 213 in 1946, and 1,168 new cases were seen in the out-patients department. Sixty-five operations were performed as compared with 78 in 1946. Ten deaths took place in the hospital.

The medico-electric section carried out successful work during the year and has proved of special value in cases of skin disease and muscular rheumatism. Ultra-violet treatment was given to children suffering from adenitis and anaemia and in cases of tubercular joints and bones.

The out-patients department of the hospital provides ante- and post-natal services in Stanley but not in the Camp at present. The policy is to persuade all maternity cases to come to hospital, their fares being paid by Government. Provision was made under the Colonial Development and Welfare Scheme for a Queen's Nurse, but the vacancy has not yet been filled.

Twenty-seven births took place in the Hospital—the same number as in the previous year. There were no deliveries at home in Stanley, but five births took place on the farms. One case was brought 120 miles by sea to the hospital, where a Caesarian section was performed on the fifth day of labour, both mother and child surviving the ordeal. There were three still-births in 1947.

Gastritis and dyspepsia are common. Eleven appendicectomies were performed in 1947, three of which were in the quiescent stage. From time to time outbreaks of acute enteritis occur, but so far their origin has not been definitely determined. Coryza in epidemic form is very common. Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and one of tuberculous orchitis were treated in hospital, as well as three cases of pleurisy in which a tuberculous aetiology was suspected but never proved.

Vaccination is compulsory and the Vaccination Ordinance is rigidly enforced: every Medical Officer is a Public Vaccinator for the district in which he is stationed.

Dental caries and pyorrhea are prevalent among the Falkland Islanders; children suffer from defective teeth at a very early age. The Dental Surgeon makes periodical tours of the East and West Falklands and holds a special clinic for school children on Saturday mornings.

In Stanley sewage is disposed of partly by water carriage and partly by the earth-closet method. The sewage, which is deposited in the harbour, is finally and efficiently swept away by the tidal currents. The drainage system of the town continues to improve. In accordance with the public health by-laws, all ashes and household refuse must be stored for removal in approved bins which are emptied once a month at least. The system is satisfactory.

Rats are under very much better control, but are still sufficiently numerous to justify periodical poison-baiting of rubbish dumps, etc.

HOUSING

Houses are mostly of timber construction and corrugated iron is the usual roofing material. All houses are built on permits from the Board of Health and must conform to its requirements regarding sanitation and construction. Owing to increase in the urban population and the present inadequacy of building supplies there is a slight shortage of houses in the town, but several new houses have been started and the position in general is improving. In very many cases the people own their houses, which are well built and comfortable.

Building loans are made by Government to facilitate new construction. The Government also maintains accommodation for its officials and two blocks of small houses which are rented to the more necessitous members of the community. Two new quarters were begun in 1947 by the Government.

All premises in the town are regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and the householders are required to keep them in a sanitary condition. The Board of Health has powers to condemn houses if they are unfit for habitation. In general terms the housing is satisfactory.

SOCIAL WELFARE

There are no orphanages or poor law institutions. Poor relief was granted by the Government in certain necessitous cases. The amount expended in 1947 was £725.

Legislative provision exists for the payment of compensation to workmen for injuries suffered in the course of their employment and a society entitled the Stanley Benefit Club insures its members for sickness and death.

In Stanley there are three social clubs, the Colony Club, the Falkland Club and the Working Men's Social Club. Football is played throughout the year. The most popular pastime is rifle shooting and the Defence Force Rifle Association, which is affiliated to the National Rifle Association, holds an annual meeting in Stanley on the lines of that at Bisley. The Colony has been represented at Bisley by teams in the Junior Kolapore and Junior Mackinnon Competitions for several years, and in 1947 won both the Junior Kolapore Cup and the Junior MacKinnon Trophy. The local Miniature Rifle Club has been successful from time to time in competitions inaugurated by the Society of Miniature Rifle Clubs.

The Stanley Sports Association holds an annual meeting in December of each year for horse-racing and athletic events.

Physical training, football, hockey and gymnastics form a regular part of the curriculum of the school.

There are public baths and a well-equipped gymnasium.

As has been stated, the Stanley Town Hall, which was burned down by accident in 1944, is being rebuilt.

There is one cinema in Stanley, and a public library.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

Five Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council in 1947. In addition to the Supplementary Appropriation (1946) Ordinance, No. 4, and the Appropriation (1948) Ordinance, No. 5, the following measures were enacted :

- Stanley Town Council Ordinance (to provide for a Town Council).
- Medical Registration (Amendment) Ordinance (to modernise the system).
- Oil, etc., Export Duties Ordinance (to increase revenue from whale oil, etc.).

The following subsidiary legislation was also enacted during the year : Proclamations prohibiting the importation and exportation of certain goods, an Order rescinding Defence Regulations, an Order in Council amending air mail rates and Regulations regarding speed and weight of motor cars, medical fees, importation of plants, defence (finance) and importation of animals.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

The judicial system of the Colony is administered by a Supreme Court (with the Governor sitting as Judge) and a Magistrate's Court in Stanley ; a number of the farm managers are Justices of the Peace, and as such, have power to deal with minor offences. There is a local Police Force consisting of four constables and a Chief Constable, who is also gaoler-in-charge of the prison in Stanley, where only short-sentence prisoners are accommodated.

In general the Colony shows a remarkable absence of crimes of violence, and indeed serious crime of any description is rare. Cases of petty theft and of injury to property, however, occur from time to time. Fifty-nine persons were dealt with in 1947 in the Summary Court and of this number 55 were convicted ; no criminal cases came before the Supreme Court and none before the Juvenile Court.

The prison in Stanley was inspected regularly by the medical authority and was found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Chapter 10 : Public Utilities

A twenty-four hour electric light supply with a voltage of 220 A.C. is available in Stanley, the generators being driven by internal combustion engines. Plans were laid down during 1947 for modernisation of the plant and its removal to a more convenient and appropriate site.

The water supply is wholesome and adequate. It is brought by pipe-

lines from a distance of about three miles and the storage available approximates to 355,000 gallons. The distributing mains serve the whole town and the water supply is very widely used so that the number of rain-water tanks is steadily diminishing.

Chapter 11 : Communications and Transport

Communication between Stanley and the outside world is effected via Montevideo through a service operated by the Falkland Islands Company with their ships the s.s. *Lafonia*, a vessel of 1,800 tons, and *Fitzroy*, of 600 tons.

The distance from Stanley to Montevideo is rather more than 1,000 miles and the length of the voyage varies from 4 to 6 days. Opportunities for the receipt and despatch of mails occur normally every four to five weeks.

The Government operates a wireless station for external traffic at Stanley under the style of the Falkland Islands Radio, and regular communication is maintained with London, Montevideo and South Georgia. A rediffusion service is maintained by the Government in Stanley. The fee for subscribers is £1 per annum and the number of subscribers in 1947 was 228. Overseas programmes and local programmes of gramophone records as well as news from the British Broadcasting Corporation service are relayed. In addition, a weekly broadcast service of local news is transmitted to the Camp. A new wireless station was erected in 1947. During 1947, 376 wireless sets were licensed.

The telegraph charges for messages to the United Kingdom and Empire are

<i>Deferred</i>	<i>Ordinary</i>	<i>Code</i>	<i>GLT</i>	<i>NLT</i>
7½d.	1s. 3d.	10d.	5s. for	10s. 5d. for
per word	per word	per word	12 words	25 words

and for the last two classes of message 5d. for each additional word.

No submarine cable exists.

Letter postage to the United Kingdom and the Empire is 1d. per ounce.

Communication between Stanley and the farms is carried out on horseback or by sea. There are no railways, tramways or omnibuses and no roads beyond the immediate neighbourhood of Stanley. The inter-insular service for mails and passengers is carried out by the *Fitzroy* and *Lafonia*.

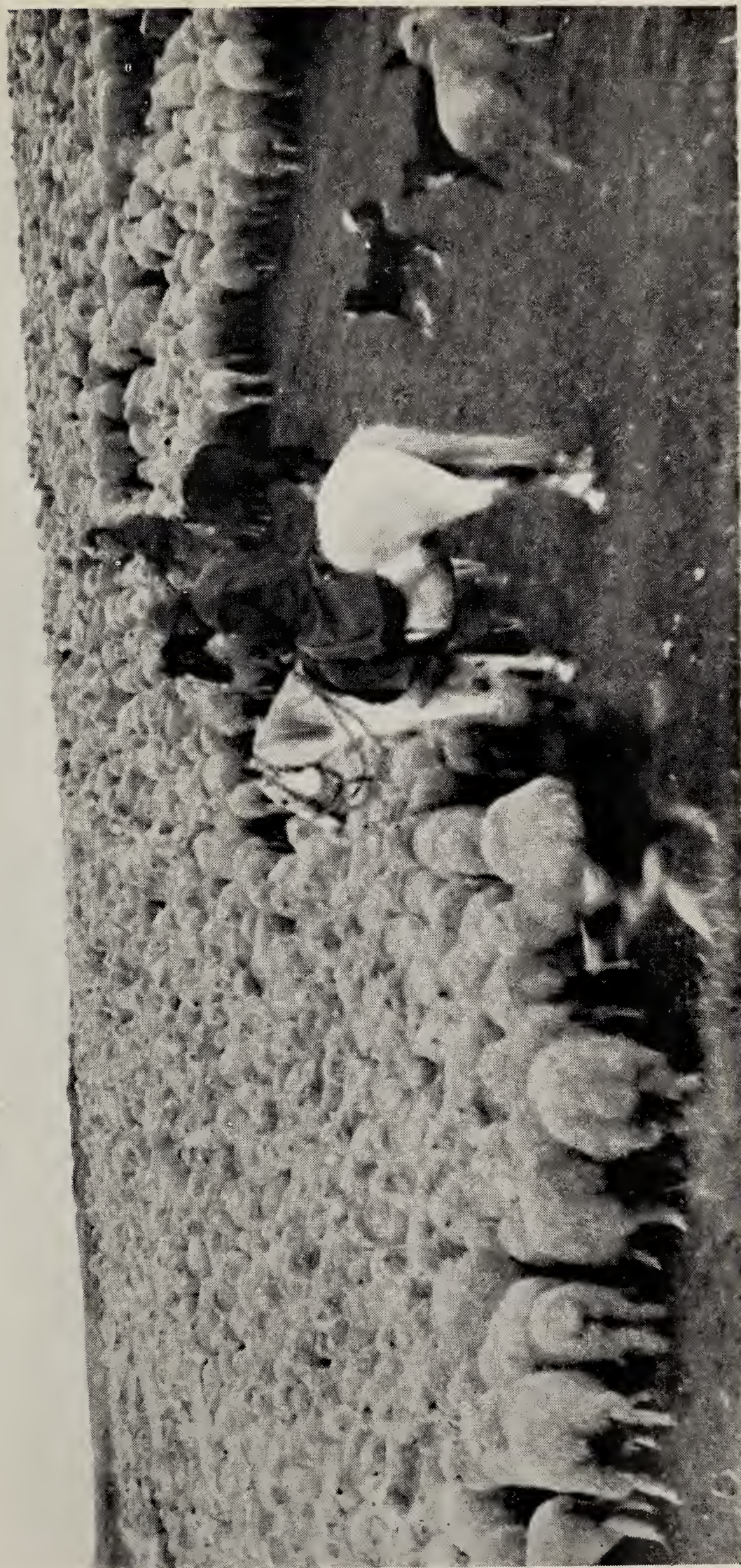
No inland telegraphs exist, but a telephone system is maintained by the Government in Stanley for general as well as official use. Most of the farm stations have their own lines connected to the Stanley system on the East Falkland, and on the West Falkland the telephones converge at Fox Bay, where there is a Government wireless station for inter-insular

traffic. Two farm stations have radio transmitters of low power for local communication.

The number, nationality, and description of the vessels which entered the Colony in 1947 are as follows :

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Tonnage</i>
British	17 ¹	10,372
Foreign	3	11,062

¹ This figure is almost entirely made up of repeated entries by the Falkland Islands Company's ships.



DRIVING SHEEP FOR SHEARING



SHEEP DIPPING



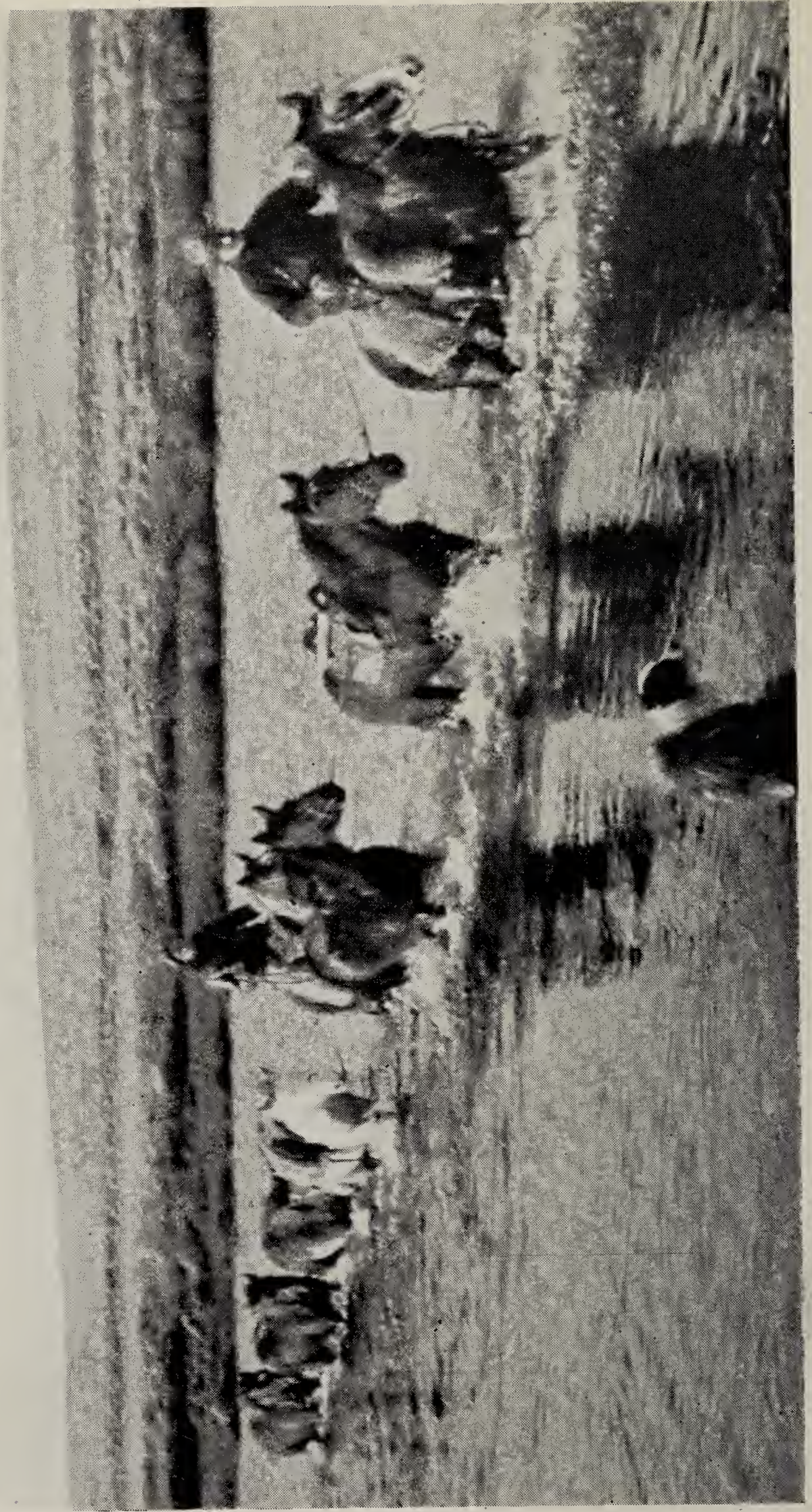
INTERIOR OF A SHEEP-SHEARING SHED



CARTING PEAT: *Horses are still used for much of this work, although motor lorries are common also*



FITZROY ROAD, STANLEY



FORDING A RIVER WITH PACK HORSES

PART II

Chapter I : Geography and Climate

THE Falkland Islands lie in the South Atlantic Ocean between 51° and 53° south latitude and 57° and 62° west longitude and about 300 miles east and somewhat to the north of the Straits of Magellan. There are two main islands—East and West Falkland—which are divided by the Falkland Sound, running approximately north-east and south-west, and about 200 smaller islands around them within a space of 130 by 80 miles. The area as computed from the Admiralty chart, is as follows :

	<i>Square miles</i>
East Falkland and adjacent islands . . .	2,580
West Falkland and adjacent islands . . .	2,038
	<hr/>
	4,618

The islands have a very deeply indented coastline and possess many excellent harbours and anchorages. The surface is hilly, attaining its maximum elevation of 2,315 ft. in Mount Adam on West Falkland. There are no navigable rivers. The entire country is covered with wild moorland interrupted by outcrops of rock and the peculiar collections of angular boulders called "stone runs". Apart from Stanley, where practically every house has a garden, there is no cultivation except in the immediate vicinity of the farm settlements and shepherds' houses where vegetables and in some places oats and grass for hay are grown. The soil is chiefly peat, but areas of sand also occur. In general appearance the Falkland Islands are bleak and inhospitable. Trees are absent except in places where a few have been planted and the scenery is said to be somewhat reminiscent of parts of Scotland. The only town is Stanley, the capital, situated on a harbour entered from Port William, on the east side of the group. It has about 1,200 inhabitants. Smaller settlements have been established as the headquarters of the various farm stations into which the Colony is divided : of these the most important is Darwin, the headquarters of the Falkland Islands Company's farm, with a population of about 100 persons.

Seasonal variations in the climate of the Falkland Islands are less noticeable than in the United Kingdom. The winters are slightly colder and the summers much colder than at Kew, which is about as far north of the equator as Stanley is south. The average midsummer temperature of the Colony is lower than the annual mean at Kew. The relatively low temperatures are mainly due to oceanic circulation, but the daily

weather is related to the direction of the wind, which, not infrequently, is so inconsistent as to give rise to wide ranges of temperature within short intervals. The annual rainfall is not excessive, averaging 30 in., but snow has been recorded for every month. Precipitation occurs on two out of every three days in the year and the atmosphere is usually damp. A large proportion of the days are cloudy and tempestuous, calm, bright weather being exceptional and seldom outlasting 24 hours. There are no native land animals, but over 120 species of wild birds have been recorded and 176 species of wild plants.

Chapter 2 : History

The Falkland Islands, called by the French “Iles Malouines” and by the Spaniards “Islas Malvinas”, a variant of the French name, were discovered on 14th August, 1592, by John Davis in the *Desire*, one of the vessels of a squadron sent to the Pacific under Cavendish. They were seen by Sir Richard Hawkins in the *Dainty* on 2nd February, 1594, and were visited in 1598 by Sebald de Weert, a Dutchman, and named after him the Sebaldine Islands, a name which part of the group still bears on some maps. Captain Strong in the *Welfare* sailed between the two principal islands in 1690 and called the passage, where he landed at several points and obtained supplies of wild geese and fresh water, the Falkland Sound, in memory of the well-known Royalist, Lucius Cary, Lord Falkland, killed at the battle of Newbury in 1643; and from this the group afterwards took its present name of “Falkland Islands”, although it does not appear to have been used before 1745.

The first settlement on the islands was made in 1764 by the Viscomte de Bougainville on behalf of the King of France, with a small colony of Acadians transferred from Nova Scotia, at Port Louis in the East Falkland on Berkeley Sound. In the following year Captain Byron, R.N., established a small garrison on Saunders Island (Port Egmont), which lies close to the north coast of the mainland.

The Spaniards, ever jealous of the presence of other nations in the southern seas, bought out the French from the settlement at Port Louis, which they renamed Soledad, in 1776, and in 1770 forcibly ejected the British from Port Egmont. This action on the part of Spain led the two countries to the verge of war. The settlement was, however, restored to Great Britain in 1771, but was voluntarily abandoned in 1774. The Spaniards in turn abandoned their settlements early in the nineteenth century, and the entire group of islands appears for some years to have remained without formal occupation and without inhabitants until in 1829 Louis Vernet, enjoying the nominal protection of the Government of the Republic of Buenos Aires, planted a new colony at Port Louis. Vernet thought fit to seize certain vessels belonging to the United States sealing fleet and in 1831 his settlement was almost destroyed by an American warship. Finally in 1833 Great Britain, who had never relaxed her claim, founded on discovery, to the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands, expelled

the Buenos Airians and resumed occupation, which has been maintained without break to the present day.

The Colony was under the charge of Naval Officers engaged in making Admiralty surveys until 1843, when a Civil Administration was formed, the headquarters of Government being at Port Louis until 1844, when they were removed to Stanley, then called Port William. Prior to the opening of the Panama Canal, the Falkland Islands lay on the main sea route from Europe to the west coast of South America through the Straits of Magellan and there was a regular service of large steamers.

In the days of sail, ships which had been damaged off Cape Horn frequently resorted to Stanley for repairs. On 8th December, 1914, the naval battle in which Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee defeated and destroyed the German Squadron under Admiral Graf Von Spee was begun within actual sight of Stanley. A memorial commemorating this victory was unveiled on 26th February, 1927.

By reason of the unsettled condition following the Munich Crisis there were no development schemes in progress in 1939. When war was declared the Falkland Islands Defence Force was embodied in order to man the previously chosen outposts and the gun-sites, and training of the infantry company was greatly intensified. The Defence Force stood down in 1945.

At the same time the Colony's value as a naval base became obvious as a result of the activity in the South Atlantic. One notable local event was the return of the British cruisers after the Battle of the River Plate to land the wounded, who were cared for in the local hospital for several weeks. At the beginning of 1940 there were at one time as many as six cruisers in Stanley Harbour and its approaches, but after the disappearance of German raiders, naval activity diminished greatly. The area to the south of the River Plate was devoid of shipping and perhaps too remote for submarine warfare.

In 1942, following the outbreak of war with Japan, a garrison of imperial troops arrived. It comprised the 11th Bn. the West Yorkshire ('The Prince of Wales' Own) Regiment, the 359th A.A. Battery, R.A., and parties of the Auxiliary Corps, in all some 2,000 officers and men. The sending of such a force was an indication of the strategic importance of the Colony. The manpower shortage continued because batteries and outposts manned by the local force had to be kept at full strength.

Until a permanent camp of Nissen hutting was constructed the 2,000 troops were billeted in the town and the householders of Stanley, despite all inconveniences, displayed that hospitality which is a characteristic of the Falkland Islanders. The larger force left at the beginning of 1944 and was greatly missed; it was succeeded by a much smaller body, about 200 men, which was responsible for the maintenance and eventually for the dismantling of the camp, and it was withdrawn in 1945.

Unemployment in the Colony disappeared with the calling-up of men for the Falkland Islands Defence Force and this mobilisation embarrassed civil affairs in the early days. Military and civil manpower needs were a matter for frequent adjustment throughout the war, and although

neither was, perhaps, fully satisfied, a state of fair equilibrium was reached at least as regards essential activities. The drift of men into Stanley which has been going on for some years was aggravated in the early days of the war and has had a marked and permanent effect in a labour shortage on the farms.

Stanley Town Hall was accidentally burned to the ground in 1944. Its fine public hall played a very important part in social life, so that the loss of it was a blow to the whole community. The building contained also the Public Library, the Museum and certain Government offices ; replacement has notably added to the amount of reconstruction and overdue repair work in sight after six years of war.

The roads in Stanley and its environs deteriorated partly on account of the heavy military traffic for which they had not been designed, and their repair will be a major work. The stocks of building materials in the Colony became greatly reduced, and their replacement extremely difficult, the more so when the local steamer had to bring military stores as well as the customary supplies, since the remoteness of the Colony from shipping routes limits importations to what can be carried by this vessel from Montevideo. The effect of reduction is likely to be felt for years.

During the war the Falkland Islands Branch of the British Red Cross Society raised more than £20,000 which was remitted to headquarters.

Chapter 3 : Government

At the head of the Government of the Colony is the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, who is advised by an Executive Council consisting of four official and two non-official members. There is also a Legislative Council composed of four official and four unofficial members nominated by the Crown.

The introduction of local government is referred to in Part I.

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

Imperial weights and measures are used.

Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

Only one paper is published, entitled *News Weekly*, which contains a review of news of the week, notice of forthcoming events, local shooting reports, articles of general interest, etc.

The *Gazette* is published monthly.

Chapter 6

A Bibliography of considerable size is to be found in

The Falkland Islands, V. F. Boyson, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1924.

(B) DEPENDENCIES

PART I

Chapter 1 : Population

THE population in South Georgia lives in the whaling stations and at the Government Headquarters at Grytviken (King Edward Cove) in Cumberland Bay. During the summer it approximates to 700, almost all males, but during the winter it is not more than one-third that number. The British inhabitants of South Georgia are for the most part members of the small Government staff and of the crews of British vessels ; the foreign population is almost exclusively Norwegian. There is no permanent population in the remainder of the Dependencies. One birth, no deaths and no marriages occurred in the Dependencies in 1947.

Chapter 2 : Occupations, Wages and Labour Organisation

OCCUPATIONS

Whaling and to a much less extent sealing with the necessary auxiliaries of repair shops, etc., are the only occupations in South Georgia. Labour is recruited overseas, mainly in Norway, on special terms adopted by the whole whaling industry. Details of the terms can be found annually in the *Norwegian Whaling Gazette*. There are no industries in the other Dependencies.

Some 700 men are employed during the season—October to March—working about 54 hours per week. During the remainder of the year the number falls to about 200 and the average number of hours per week to 40. Sealing is carried on mainly outside the whaling season.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING

A system of bonuses on production is employed and besides wages and bonuses all hands are provided with quarters, heating, light and food, which, although plain, is good and plentiful. As all foodstuffs are provided by the whaling companies, the question of the cost-of-living bonus does not arise. There are no shops and no private trade, but each station has a “slop chest” where clothing, tobacco, etc., may be purchased.

Chapter 3 : Public Finance and Taxation

The Revenue of the Dependencies amounted in 1946 to £119,084, the main heads being customs, including export taxes on whale and seal products £12,059, and sale of stamps £99,390. Expenditure for the year was £83,660, including contribution to the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey £55,000, income tax refunds £11,397, and printing stamps £4,034.

Figures of revenue and expenditure for the five years up to 1946 are :

		<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
		£	£
1942	. . . .	8,803	15,341
1943	. . . .	10,503	14,355
1944	. . . .	14,272	15,133
1945	. . . .	13,283	14,447
1946	. . . .	119,084	83,660

(See statement referring to sale of stamps in Part I, Chapter 3, of Section A).

For Taxation, *see* under the Colony.

Chapter 4 : Currency and Banking

No banks exist in the Dependencies. Through the Treasury at Stanley facilities are afforded for deposit in the Government Savings Bank or for remittances overseas.

The legal tender is British coinage and Falkland Islands £5, £1, and 10s. notes.

Chapter 5 : Commerce

The whole of the Dependencies' requirements in foodstuffs is imported.

The value of imports and exports for the year under review and for 1939, 1945 and 1946 was :

	IMPORTS			
	(Including imports from the High Seas for re-export)			
	1939	1945	1946	1947
	£	£	£	£
Raw Materials . . .	106,636	251,604	421,114	401,530
Mainly manufactured . .	176,672	252,517	241,760	272,131
Food, Drink and Tobacco .	10,286	43,897	61,046	111,385
Miscellaneous . . .	—	207	158	851
Total Imports . . .	£293,594	£548,225	£724,078	£785,897

IMPORTS

(Percentage, including imports from the High Seas for re-export)

	1939	1945	1946	1947
Foreign Countries . . .	88.89	78.75	81.94	76.75
British Empire . . .	11.11	21.25	18.06	23.25

PRINCIPAL SUPPLYING COUNTRIES

	1939 £	1945 £	1946 £	1947 £
Dutch West Indies . . .	76,010	234,513	313,019	291,744
United Kingdom . . .	33,626	85,553	130,633	182,301
Norway	29,385	—	58,653	10,588
Uruguay	—	15,688	23,875	91,468
Argentina	4,219	44,135	44,900	50,427
U.S.A.	—	22,986	—	—

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS

In £ sterling

	1946	1947	
Coal, Coke and Fuel Oil . . .	399,487	356,617	Dutch W. Indies 288,685
Provisions . . .	61,046	111,385	U.K. 29,761, Argentine 29,003, Uruguay 36,151, Norway 16,001
Hardware . . .	50,885	103,012	U.K. 50,301, Norway 41,105
Canvas and Rope	25,632	30,231	U.K. 20,286, Norway 9,945
Bags and Bagging	2,530	21,995	U.K. 15,299
Paints and Oils .	8,811	9,107	U.K. 7,656

EXPORTS

	1937 £	1945 £	1946 £	1947 £
Whale Oil	402,402	502,935	633,437	1,592,519
Whale Meat Meal . . .	3,957	—	35,001	136,393
Other articles	2,355	11,348	65,019	75,940
Guano	63,175	93,695	88,112	72,625
Seal Oil	—	—	171,470	69,921
Whale Bone	—	—	930	2,094
Total Exports (including re-exports)	£471,889	£607,978	£993,969	£1,949,492

RE-EXPORTS

	1939	1945	1946	1947
	£	£	£	£
Whale Oil . . .	192,052	145,400	144,800	35,000
Other articles . . .	2,290	11,025	62,829	71,127
Total Re-exports . . .	£194,342	£156,425	£207,629	£106,127

DOMESTIC EXPORTS

	1946	1947
Whale Oil . . .	109,108 brl.	146,706 brl.
Whale Meat Meal . . .	10,380,170 lb.	12,226,932 lb.
Guano . . .	133,134 cwt.	105,745 cwt.
Seal Oil . . .	31,093 brl.	9,393 brl.
Whale Bone . . .	820 cwt.	1,400 cwt.

EXPORTS (*Distribution*)

	1937	1945	1946	1947
British Empire . . .	31.48	52.25	61.22	64.64
Foreign Countries . . .	0.03	3.13	11.10	35.36
High Seas . . .	68.49	44.32	27.68	—

EXPORTS

Principal Destinations

	1937	1945	1946	1947
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom . . .	147,825	319,622	576,685	1,219,924
Norway . . .	—	—	80,000	594,592
High Seas . . .	322,934	269,307	301,323	53,587
Denmark . . .	—	—	—	39,213
Uruguay . . .	—	—	—	33,364
Argentina . . .	1,130	—	35,961	8,452

RE-EXPORTS

	1946	1947	<i>Destination</i>
Whale Oil . . .	25,183 brl.	2,580 brl.	United Kingdom

Chapter 6 : Production

Apart from sealing on a moderate scale at South Georgia the only industry in the Dependencies is whaling, and whale and seal oil and the by-products of the whale, such as meat-meal and guano, are the sole products. The whaling season lasts for six months, October to April,

and sealing is carried on during the winter and spring. For the purpose among others of assisting whaling operations, the Government maintains a meteorological station in South Georgia, and seven other stations in other (Antarctic) parts of the Dependencies as a part of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey.

WHALING

There are three land whaling stations, all in South Georgia. The price of first quality whale oil in 1947 was £90 per ton.

The latest available report is for the season 1946-47 and the following is extracted from it: The season was reported to have been "fair as regards both catch and production but whales were never very numerous". The catch amounted to 2,550 whales, namely, 326 Blue, 1,761 Fin, 30 Humpback, 391 Sei, 131 Sperm, and one Right Whale which was killed in error. 144,386 barrels of oil and 129,151 bags of guano were produced and 69 tons of baleen were exported.

The following table shows the catch and production for the last five seasons :

<i>Season</i>	<i>Number of Whales</i>	<i>Oil (Barrels)</i>	<i>Guano, etc. (Bags)</i>
1942-43 . . .	998	50,960	54,000
1943-44 . . .	962	50,001	48,103
1944-45 . . .	1,269	75,540	72,294
1945-46 . . .	1,913	78,880	92,186
1946-47 . . .	2,550	144,386	129,151

SEALING

This is confined to the surplus males of the immense herd of Elephant Seals which, with the hearty co-operation of the whalers, has been assiduously nursed by the Administration and for many years has increased continuously. Sealing is carried on under a system of annual licences and the coasts of the island are divided into four divisions of which only three are worked annually so that each division is rested one year in four. The catches for the last five seasons were :

<i>Season</i>	<i>Seals</i>	<i>Oil (Barrels)</i>	<i>Average per Seal (Barrels)</i>
1943	5,927	11,167	1·884
1944	6,000	11,940	1·990
1945	5,382	10,382	1·929
1946	4,449	8,075	1·815
1947	6,000	11,994	1·999

Chapter 7 : Social Services

EDUCATION

There are only two children in South Georgia and none in the other Dependencies. There is no state education. When there are children in South Georgia they are invariably educated by the parents.

HEALTH

There is little or no sickness in the Dependencies, even colds being rare, but accidents occur among the whaling crews.

The whaling companies in South Georgia have well-equipped hospitals and provide their own doctors, the Government contributing a share of the salary of the Medical Officer at Grytviken.

HOUSING

The housing question does not arise in the Dependencies. All the officials are suitably housed and the accommodation provided by the whaling companies for the men working on the station is adequate. All housing is of a type specially suited to the rigours of the climate.

SOCIAL WELFARE

In South Georgia cinema shows are given by the whaling companies for the benefit of the men. Football is popular in summer and ski-ing in winter.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

See corresponding head under the Colony.

Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

The Magistrate, South Georgia, sits at Grytviken in a court of first instance and the Supreme Court of the Colony at Stanley is common to all Dependencies. One constable is stationed at South Georgia. No cases of serious crime came before the courts during the year. The whalers form a most peaceful and law-abiding community, rarely requiring the intervention of the civil authority. A high standard of discipline is maintained by the managers of the several whaling stations.

Chapter 10 : Public Utilities

There are no public utilities. The whaling stations and the Government quarters have their own water and electricity supplies.

Chapter 11 : Communications and Transport

As has been stated in Chapter 11 of Part II (the Colony), there is occasional communication between South Georgia and Stanley by the Falkland Islands Company's vessel and opportunity occurs from time to time during the whaling season for the carriage of mails direct between Europe and the River Plate and South Georgia. Ships of the Antarctic whaling fleet call at South Georgia on their way to the grounds in November and on the return journey in April.

Communication with the Dependencies other than South Georgia is maintained by the m.v. *John Biscoe*, which was purchased by the Falkland Islands Dependencies Government during the year in order to carry out the annual relief and reprovioning of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey parties.

Post offices are maintained at South Georgia and at each of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey bases in the Antarctic.

The Colonial Wireless Station at Grytviken is in regular communication with that at Stanley through which traffic passes overseas. The Argentine Government is permitted to maintain a wireless station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys.

No railways or roads exist in the Dependencies. Two floating docks are maintained at South Georgia by the whaling companies, one at Grytviken and the other at Stromness Harbour. The dock at Grytviken has an overall length of 133 feet and a breadth of 34 feet with a lifting capacity of 600 tons. It is capable of taking vessels up to 140 feet in length and drawing 15 feet 6 inches. Stromness dock is 150 feet long, 34 feet wide and its lifting capacity is 700 tons. It will accommodate vessels up to 160 feet in length and 15 feet in draught.

There are two ports of entry in the Dependencies, one at Grytviken, South Georgia, and the other at Port Foster, Deception Island, in the South Shetlands.

The following ships entered at South Georgia in 1947 :

<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Vessels</i>	<i>Tonnage</i>
British	50	84,112
Foreign	12	32,666

Chapter 12 : Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey

Arrangements for transferring the administration of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey (which maintains scientific parties in the Dependencies other than South Georgia) from the Secretary of State to the Governor were under consideration during the year. (The transfer took place in 1948 and notes on the activities of the Survey will therefore be included in this Annual Report in future years.)

PART II

Chapter I : Geography and Climate

THE Dependencies include all lands and islands south of 50 degrees of south latitude between the meridians of 20° and 50° west longitude and south of 58 degrees of south latitude between 50° and 80° west longitude. There are two main groups, the one consisting of South Georgia with the South Orkneys, and the South Sandwich Islands, and the other of the South Shetlands with Graham Land.

The island of South Georgia lies about 800 miles to the east of the Falkland Islands, in 54½° south latitude, the South Orkneys and the South Sandwich Islands being 450 miles to the south-west and south-east respectively of South Georgia. The northern point of the South Shetlands is about 500 miles to the south of the Falkland Islands.

South Georgia has an area of about 1,450 square miles, is about 100 miles in length with a maximum breadth of about 20 miles, and consists mainly of steep mountains. There is little flat land and the island is almost entirely barren, the main vegetation being grass which grows on the north-eastern side of the island, where the snow melts in the summer. There are no indigenous mammals other than seals, but reindeer were introduced in 1911 and there is now a large, wild herd. There are many sea-birds, including penguins and albatrosses. The coastline has been fairly well charted. Although South Georgia is little more than a hundred miles farther south than Stanley, the difference in climate is very marked, that of the former approximating closely to conditions in the Antarctic. The mountains are covered by an extensive snow field throughout the year and the glaciers descend on a grand scale to the sea. During the year 1947 the average mean temperature was 35.38° F. Rain fell on 87 days and snow or sleet on 101 days.

The other Dependencies are Antarctic in character, being very mountainous with many glaciers and almost completely snow-covered throughout the year.

Several instances of volcanic activity have been recorded at Deception Island, South Shetlands. The first earthquake of which there is any definite report occurred in 1923, although some of the whalers stated that shocks were felt in 1912. In February, 1924, a strong tremor was experienced at Deception Island where the occasion was marked by the collapse of a large rock forming the top of a well-known natural arch named the "Sewing Machine" on account of its shape. In 1925 one of the giant columns in the entrance of the harbour disappeared. Again, in the season 1928-29 several earthquake shocks were felt, the most pronounced being in March, 1929, when a large quantity of rock fell, com-

pletely changing the formation of the ridge on the east side of the harbour. The water in the harbour of Port Foster frequently became agitated by subterranean heat, and the beaches in places were obscured by the steam they emitted. Volcanic activity has been observed in the South Sandwich group.

Chapter 2 : History

South Georgia was explored and taken possession of for Great Britain by Captain Cook, who landed there in 1775, the year in which he also discovered the South Sandwich group. The South Orkneys was discovered by Captain Powell of the British ship *Dove*, who landed on Coronation Island on 7th December, 1821, and took possession of the group in the name of King George IV. The South Shetlands were discovered by W. Smith, who landed and took possession in 1819, and they were examined by Captain Bransfield in 1829. Captain Bransfield also discovered Graham Land and John Biscoe explored its west coast in 1832 when he took possession for Great Britain. Profitable sealing voyages to South Georgia were made prior to 1793 and British whalers were reported there in 1819.

Fur-sealing in the Dependencies achieved such proportions in the early part of the nineteenth century that voyages were made to them in the two seasons 1820-21 and 1821-22 by no less than 91 ships. So reckless was the slaughter that the fur-seal was practically exterminated. James Weddell stated that by 1822-24 these animals were almost extinct. The meteorological station on Laurie Island in the South Orkneys, to which reference has been already made, was established in 1903 by the Scottish Expedition under Dr. W. S. Bruce, and with the assent of the Government was transferred by him in 1904 to the Argentine Government, by whom it is maintained by permission of the British Authorities.

The Dependencies, as annexed to the British Crown, are defined in Letters Patent of 21st July, 1908, as amended by Letters Patent of 28th March, 1917.

Later history is mainly concerned with the whaling industry.

From 1906 to the present day whaling has been carried on in South Georgia by companies which are the lessees of the Administration.

In South Shetland the whaling lasted from 1906 to 1931. There was one leasehold land station at Deception Island, and floating factories operated in various well-known anchorages under licences from the Administration. The South Georgia whaling diminished to one station as a result of the rush to the pelagic grounds in the Antarctic, but there has been some revival and three stations are now working.

In South Shetland the pelagic development resulted in a rapid withdrawal of the fleet towards the end of the nineteen-twenties and to the complete abandonment of the field.

Chapter 3 : Government

The Dependencies are subject to the same authority as the Colony proper, that is to say, to the Governor and the Executive and Legislative Councils, but Ordinances enacted in respect of the Colony do not run in the Dependencies unless they are specifically applied.

An Administrative Officer, who is also Magistrate, and an official staff are maintained at South Georgia, and control over whaling operations in the other Dependencies is carried out by representatives of the Government, who accompany the expeditions as required.

There is no local government in South Georgia ; in fact, there are no communities besides the whaling stations which are run by the managers on behalf of the several companies owning them.

In the Dependencies other than South Georgia, there is a magistrate at each of the posts maintained by the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey, who is one of the members of the survey party.

A brief reference to the activities of the Argentinian and Chilean Governments in relation to the Dependencies is contained in paragraphs 34 and 187 of the Report entitled *The Colonial Empire, 1947-1948*, presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for the Colonies (Cmd. 7433).

Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

Imperial and Norwegian weights and measures are in general use.

Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

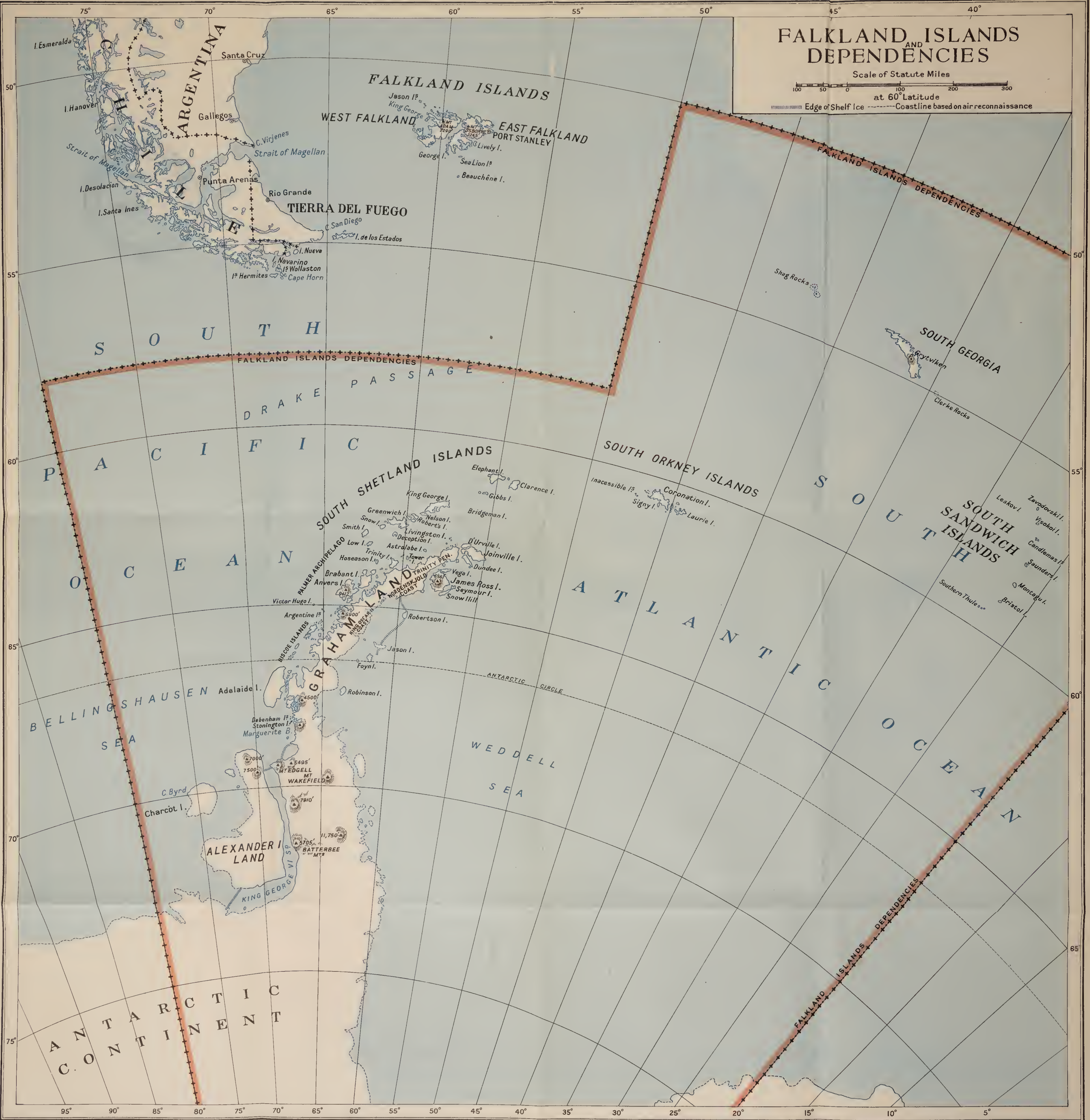
None.

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FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES

Scale of Statute Miles

100 50 0 100 200 300

at 60° Latitude

Edge of Shelf Ice --- Coastline based on air reconnaissance